Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

bushels shall be grouped, to the extent practicable, into geographically contiguous units each of which, to the extent practicable, have a combined annual soybean production level which is equal to or greater than three million (3,000,000) bushels and each such unit shall be entitled to at least one representative on the Board.

- (2) Each unit that has an annual average soybean production of less than fifteen million (15,000,000) bushels shall be entitled to one representative on the Board
- (3) Each unit which has an annual average soybean production of fifteen million (15,000,000) or more bushels but less than seventy million (70,000,000) bushels shall be entitled to two (2) representatives on the Board.
- (4) Each unit which has an annual average soybean production of seventy million (70,000,000) or more bushels but less than two hundred million (200,000,000) bushels shall be entitled to three (3) representatives on the Board.
- (5) Each unit which has an annual average soybean production of two hundred million (200,000,000) bushels or more shall be entitled to four (4) representatives on the Board.
- (6) For the purposes of this section, average annual soybean production shall be determined by using the average of the production for the State or unit over the five previous years, excluding the year in which production was the highest and the year in which production was the lowest.

(f) [Reserved]

[56 FR 31049, July 9, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 29962, June 7, 1995; 60 FR 58500, Nov. 28, 1995; 62 FR 37489, July 14, 1997; 62 FR 41485, Aug. 1, 1997; 65 FR 63768, Oct. 25, 2000; 68 FR 57327, Oct. 3, 2003]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 71 FR 69430, Dec. 1, 2006, §1220.201 was amended by revising the table immediately following paragraph (a), effective Jan. 2, 2007. For the convenience of the user, the revised text is set forth as fol-

§ 1220.201 Membership of board.

(a) * * *

Unit	Number of members
Illinois	4
lowa	4
Minnesota	4

Unit	Number of members
Indiana	
Nebraska	4
Missouri	3
Ohio	3
Arkansas	3
South Dakota	3
Kansas	3
Michigan	3
North Dakota	3
Mississippi	2
Louisiana	2
Tennessee	2
North Carolina	2
Kentucky	2
Pennsylvania	:
Virginia	2
Maryland	2
Wisconsin	2
Georgia	
South Carolina	
Alabama	
Delaware	
Texas	
Oklahoma	'
New York	-

Unit	Number of members
Eastern Region (Massachusetts, New Jersey Connecticut, Florida, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, West Virginia, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico	1

§ 1220.202 Term of office.

- (a) The members of the Board shall serve for terms of 3 years, except that the members appointed to the initial Board shall serve, proportionately, for terms of 1, 2, and 3 years.
- (b) Each member shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed by the Secretary and has accepted the position.
- (c) No member shall serve more than three consecutive 3-year terms in such capacity.

§ 1220.203 Nominations.

All nominations for appointments to the Board under §1220.204 shall be made in the following manner:

(a) After the issuance of this subpart by the Secretary, nominations shall be obtained by the Secretary as specified in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section from Qualified State Soybean

§ 1220.204

Boards or for initial Board nominations, eligible organizations deemed qualified to nominate pursuant to paragraph (f) of the section. A Qualified State Soybean Board, or for initial Board nominations, an eligible organization shall only submit nominations for positions on the Board representing the unit, as established under §1220.201, in which such Qualified State Soybean Board operates.

- (b) If the Secretary determines that a unit is not represented by a Qualified State Soybean Board or for initial Board nominations, an eligible organization, then the Secretary may solicit nominations from organizations which represent producers in that unit and from producers residing in that unit. A caucus may be held in such units for the purpose of collectively submitting nominations to the Secretary.
- (c) Where there is more than one State comprising a unit, the Secretary shall take into consideration the nominations submitted by Qualified State Soybean Boards or for initial Board nominations, eligible organizations, within the unit. A caucus may be held in such units for the purpose of collectively submitting nominations to the Secretary. The Secretary shall consider the proportional levels of production in each State comprising the unit when appointing members to the Board representing that unit.
- (d) At least two nominations shall be submitted for each position to be filled.
- (e) Nominations may be submitted in order of preference and for the initial Board, in order of preference for staggered terms. Should the Secretary reject any nomination submitted and there are insufficient nominations submitted from which appointments can be made, the Secretary may request additional nominations under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, whichever provision is applicable for such unit.
- (f) Any organization authorized pursuant to State law to collect assessments from producers may notify the Secretary of the organization's intent to nominate members to the initial Board for the State or unit, as established under § 1220.201, in which such organization operates and is authorized by State law. Such eligibility shall be

based only upon the criteria established pursuant to §1220.228(a)(1). There shall only be one organization authorized per State pursuant to this section to submit nominations to the initial Board. If no such entity exists in a State, any organization meeting those requirements of §1220.228(a)(2) may request eligibility to submit nominations.

§ 1220.204 Appointment.

From the nominations made pursuant to §1220.203, the Secretary shall appoint the members of the Board on the basis of representation provided for in §1220.201.

§ 1220.205 Nominee's agreement to serve.

Any producer nominated to serve on the Board shall file with the Secretary at the time of nomination a written agreement to:

- (a) Serve on the Board if appointed; and
- (b) Agree to disclose any relationship with any soybean promotion entity or with any organization that has or is being considered for a contractual relationship with the Board.

§ 1220.206 Vacancies.

To fill any vacancy occasioned by the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of any member of the Board, the Secretary shall request nominations for a successor pursuant to §1220.203, and such successor shall be appointed pursuant to §1220.204.

§1220.207 Alternate members.

- (a) The Secretary shall solicit, pursuant to the procedures of §1220.203, nominations for alternate members of the Board
- (b) The Secretary shall appoint one alternate member of the Board for each unit which has only one member pursuant to §1220.204 and §1220.205.
- (c) Alternate members of the Board may attend meetings of the Board as a voting member upon the following circumstances:
- (1) A member of the Board for the unit which the alternate member represents is absent; and
- (2) Such member, or in the case of incapacitation or death of the member, a